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Washington, DC - Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) issued the following statement, regarding her support of BP Deepwater Horizon Disaster Inquiry Commission Act of 2010 (H.R. 5241). This legislation establishes an independent, nonpartisan commission to investigate the Gulf Oil Spill Disaster. Millions of gallons of oil from a British Petroleum (BP) rig have been spewing into the Gulf of Mexico since April 20. The disaster is ravaging aquatic life and slowly destroying local businesses with no end in sight.

"As a result of no industry regulation and oversight, the 'Drill Baby Drill' advocates are now witnessing the 'Spill Baby Spill' reality - poisoned ocean waters, crippled businesses, and several rig workers injured and killed. BP and its contractors are fully responsible for this disaster. Now we need to get to the bottom of what caused this catastrophe and how we can prevent it from ever happening again.

"The BP Deepwater Horizon Disaster Inquiry Commission Act of 2010, which I fully support, will finally put a stop to industries running amok without regard to public health, the environment, and the economy - all in the name of quick profits. By establishing a commission to examine the causes and the potential for such disasters to happen again, Congress will be better informed of the risks offshore drilling.

"As the oil spill grows bigger and bigger every day, so does government's responsibility to work aggressively and without hesitation to limit environmental and economic damage. We cannot afford to wait a day longer."

Congresswoman Betty McCollum serves on the House Appropriations and Budget Committees.
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